

# the Gateway

USAFE's Best Small Funded Newspaper for 2003

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## USAFE surpasses goals through Combat, Special Interest Programs

By Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong  
Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS)** – We all naturally want to do well and, in our case, we set the bar high and the U.S. Air Forces in Europe team not only reached our goals, but exceeded them!

In the military, our business demands excellence and requires dedicated professionals who understand that anything less will cost people their lives. What makes our organization successful is not just all of the hard work, but our ability to work hard together toward a common purpose — our mission.

The 14 Combat and Special Interest Programs instituted within the command are intended to increase our readiness, improve our mission effectiveness and help take care of our people. They help us translate our vision, mission and goals into concrete results and institutionalize our higher standards of excellence.

With this in mind, we developed and implemented a measurement system that covers a wide spectrum of important functions within our organization. Each month we review our CSIP metrics and some 23 other quality indicators, covering everything from how quickly patients are attended to at our medical facilities to how many aircraft assigned to our wings are ready to fly at any given time. The quality indicators identify strengths and weaknesses and provide a baseline to measure improvement. This system provides valuable insight into the health of the organization and our progress toward stated goals.

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Photo by 1st Lt. Uriah Orland

### Testing one, two

*Staff Sgt. Joshua Riebe, a firefighter deployed to Rhein-Main from the 932nd Civil Engineer Squadron at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., tests a substance found near a suspicious vehicle during a base exercise Wednesday. The 469th Air Base Group tested first responders ability to cope with the spread of a chemical agent and the command and control response to the threat.*

## Celebrate freedom, equality on July 4th

By Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong  
Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS)** – For 228 years, Americans have celebrated the signing of our Declaration of Independence. This document, signed by our great country's forefathers, conceived a new nation and put into writing the democratic freedoms and

inalienable rights we so cherish today: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

From the Revolutionary War to Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, Americans have sacrificed their sons and daughters for our coveted virtues of freedom, democracy and equality. These

See *Celebrate*, Page 6

## For the troops

*(Left to right) Rev. Clarence Martin, Angela Knight from the Washington Opera and LaToya Buchanan, representing Christ Jesus Ministry from Herndon, Va., perform "America the Beautiful" June 15 at the 64th Replacement Company Dining Facility. The Installation Management Agency-Europe and U.S. Army Europe chaplain's offices hosted the group's trip to Europe to say thank you to troops.*



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers

## Officials remind Airmen to register to vote

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — General elections are approaching and Air Force voting officials at the Air Force Personnel Center here are reminding everyone to register to vote.

Department of Defense officials recently announced they have worked out a plan with the U.S. Postal Service to get absentee ballots to servicemembers overseas faster, but registering to vote is the first step to getting a ballot.

"Getting registered to vote is not a difficult process, it's just a matter of making it a priority," said Lt. Col. Lee Shick, an Air Force voting action officer.

Deadlines and state-specific rules on voter registration can be found on the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov). The site includes a list of 10 things to do to ensure a person's vote counts.

"Our goal is 100-percent contact with every Airman by a voting representative," Colonel Shick said. "The opportunity to vote has been emphasized as a command responsibility and our installation voting officers play a key role."

"We want to make sure each individual gets the word about voting and that they have the tools and information to apply for an absentee ballot and vote," he said. "If Airmen can't get registered online, installation voting officers will have a supply of federal postcard applications."

For more information, contact the Rhein-Main voting assistance officer, Master Sgt. James McGee.

*(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)*

### 10 things to help ensure your absentee vote is counted

1. Start by contacting your unit voting assistance officer for help in absentee registration and voting.
2. Visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program's Web site at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) for information on the absentee registration and voting process.
3. Ensure you've applied for an absentee ballot using the hard copy or online versions of the FPCA.
4. Make sure your local election official has your current mailing address.
5. Sign and date all election materials.
6. Fulfill your state's witness/notary requirements (if required).
7. Ensure your ballot or FPCA is postmarked.
8. Register to vote and request your ballot in a timely manner – not later than September.
9. VOTE – mail your ballot no later than Oct. 15, 2004.
10. Use the Federal Write In Absentee Ballot if you're overseas and your state absentee ballot does not arrive in time to be mailed back by the state's deadline.

## Time to turn in – Gateway Gardens curfew hours

The Gateway Gardens curfew applies to all dependents and guests under 18 years old. Curfew hours are: 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and midnight to 6 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

During curfew hours, minors must ei-

ther be escorted by an adult (parent, legal guardian or a person at least 21 years old) or returning home from an official function for which an exemption has been granted. Exemptions must be coordinated through the installation commander.

When minors violate the curfew, security forces patrols will contact the sponsor of the minor and make a blotter entry.

The curfew is intended to ensure the safety of children, help maintain quiet hours and reduce incidents of vandalism.

# 817th EAS breaks cargo record

*Rhein-Main based unit delivers 'the goods' keeping U.S. forces alive in the war on terror*

**By Capt. Kimberly Layne**  
379th AEW Public Affairs

**SOUTHWEST ASIA** — The 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, Detachment 2, C-17 Globemaster squadron, recently finished a record-breaking 45-day airlift operation here.

The squadron flew more than 290 missions and moved more than 240,000 tons of cargo from April 12 to May 27.

May marked a 140 percent increase of cargo movement since the detachment first began flying operations in the Central Command area of responsibility in June 2003, said Maj. Darren Cole, detachment commander, deployed from Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany. "The 817th was a part of the largest airlift operation since World War II."

The C-17 is capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly



Photos by 1st Lt. Uriah Orland

**Tech. Sgt. Ezzedin Bautista guides Tech. Sgt. Robert Jones into position to place a cargo pallet on the "highlines" rack in the 726th Air Mobility Squadron's marshalling yard Tuesday. The 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, headquartered at Rhein-Main, has moved more than 240,000 tons since mid April.**

to forward bases in the deployment area.

The crewmembers of the C-17 include a pilot, co-pilot and loadmaster.

"Having such a small crew means that there is a closer bond between us," said Master Sgt. Michael Cumberland, a loadmaster in the squadron, deployed from McChord Air Force Base, Wash. "We've shown that big crews aren't always necessary to get the job done."

Moving such large amounts of cargo is especially unique for the 817th EAS because they do not fit into the traditional AEF cycle.

"Other weapon systems fly out and come back to their original location. Because of the nature of our missions, we are only here from two to seven days at a time," Major Cole said.

That kind of transient lifestyle is a challenge because sometimes people don't understand

their contributions to the war effort, said Major Cole. He reminds his troops of the importance of the tasks they must perform.

"We are saving the lives of [Army] convoy drivers," he said. "We deliver the cargo that is vital to their mission. You are sustaining and building a country — be proud of that."

The C-17 was first introduced on Sept. 15, 1991, when it made its first flight while in delivery to Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.

The first squadron of C-17s was declared operational ready Jan. 17, 1995.

The 817th EAS continues to contribute to the C-17 mission. In addition to moving large amounts of cargo, they have also transported more than 2,900 passengers during the month of May.

Many people contributed to their mission success.

Among them were members of the 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron.

"Airmen from the aerial port, maintainers and command center flights are instrumental in helping us with our missions," said Major Cole. "This is just one more example of the great teamwork that is so evident throughout the entire AOR."



**(Left to right) Senior Airman Vanessa Lazare, Senior Master Sgt. Chester England and Airman 1st Class Edward Bascope throw their weight into moving a pallet into place on the "highlines", preparing a load for a C-17.**



# Clean up unit ADPE accounts before closure

**By Tech. Sgt. Brian McHugh**  
Communications Flight

As Rhein-Main Air Base nears closure, it is imperative that unit Automated Data Processing Equipment accounts be free of excess and non-operational equipment.

Cleaning out our closets and warehouses now is the best way to facilitate an efficient turnover and reconciliation when we shut the doors of Rhein-Main. Unit ADPE custodians must start clearing their inventories of excess and nonoperational ADPE and related computer items now by transferring them to the base equipment custodian so they can be transferred to the Defense Reutilization and Management Organization.

The procedures for the transfer of this equipment are spelled out in Air Force Instruction 33-112. In accordance with the AFI, equipment custodians will obtain approval and coordinate all potential transfers of computer systems between accounts with applicable equipment control officers.

Equipment custodians will ship excess computer systems or turn them into DRMO as directed by the applicable equipment control officer. Equipment custodians will also provide appropriate documentation to the ECO to clear the account of equipment that was transferred to another account, turned-in to DRMO, or donated to a school.

If you need additional help the 469th Air Base Group Small Computers office can help.

We work closely with unit equipment custodians and the base ECO to provide approval for the movement of ADPE through the use of specific tech solutions.

If you are an appointed equipment custodian and have equipment to turn in, send an e-mail to [469abg.scxc@rheinmain.af.mil](mailto:469abg.scxc@rheinmain.af.mil) or 469th ABG/SCXC Small Computers on the global e-mail address list with the item description, serial number, Information Processing Management System component number and the operational status of the item.

We will create a computer system resource document, or tech solution, approving the transfer and forward it to the Rhein-Main ECO, Cleveland Paige, Lockheed Martin.

Finally, the ECO will contact the equipment custodian directly to arrange a time to drop off the equipment.

If you are not an equipment custodian and have excess or non-operational ADPE, please notify your unit equipment custodian. If you do not know who your equipment custodian is, call to the small computers office and we can tell you.

Getting rid of excess ADPE equipment now will provide you a smaller, leaner and more manageable account and allow for quick transition during closure.

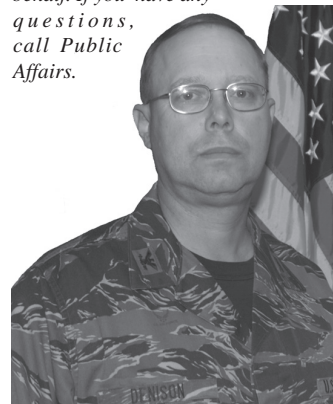
*The Action Line is one way for me to keep my finger on the pulse of the Rhein-Main community and is used as an avenue for communication.*

*The main objective of the Commander's Action Line is finding solutions to problems or providing explanations for processes.*

*If you experience problems at Rhein-Main, you should always try to resolve problems at the lowest level by contacting the unit or agency managers. In almost every case, your chain of command is the best solution. I strongly encourage everyone to use that route first. When normal channels haven't been able to resolve your issues, feel free to send an e-mail to [Hotline@rheinmain.af.mil](mailto:Hotline@rheinmain.af.mil) or call 330-7779. Please include your name and contact information along with your concern.*

*Action Lines are forwarded to the appropriate agency for action and response. They should contact you within 24 hours. Once an Action Line is started, the agency must provide a complete answer to me within 10 days.*

*The 469th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office is responsible for managing the Action Line program on my behalf. If you have any questions, call Public Affairs.*



**Col. Bradley Denison**  
Commander, 469th Air Base Group

**330-7779**

Commander's  
Action Line

the  
**Gateway**

## Editorial Staff

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*The deadline for the July 9  
edition of the Gateway is  
4 p.m., July 1.*

## Warriors of the Week



Katherine Savage

**Unit:** Child development center

**Time in AF services:** 14 years

**Time at Rhein-Main:** 5 months

**Duty Title:** CDC director

**Hometown:** Miami Springs, Fla.

**Hobbies:** Horseback riding, cross-stitching and working on master's degree in human relations.

**What has been your best Air Force experience?**  
Being promoted from caregiver to assistant CDC director.



Staff Sgt. Vickie Davis

**Unit:** Gateway Inn

**Time in service:** 10 years

**Time at Rhein-Main:** 4 months

**Duty Title:** Assistant front desk supervisor

**Hometown:** St. George, S.C.

**Hobbies:** Family time, traveling and reading.

**What has been your best Air Force experience?**  
Being promoted to staff sergeant and becoming a supervisor.

# 48 earn promotion to E-6, E-7

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — Air Force officials have selected 6,217 of 23,956 eligible technical sergeants for promotion to master sergeant, a 25.95-percent selection rate; and 9,114 of 42,248 eligible staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant, a 21.57-percent selection rate.

Master sergeant selects from the 469th Air Base Group are: **Robert Bayham, Pamela Bidel, Bradford Bush** (deployed), **James Cunningham, Joleo Dianala, Ulysses Dotson, Douglas Geldien, Gary Luttrell, Jenny Luttrell, William Stanforth** and **George Tamayo**.

Master sergeant selects from the 726th Air Mobility Squadron are: **Edward Cady, Christopher Carrico, Brian Carroll, Ricky Clark, Patrick Costello, Gary Deakin, Robert Ezell, Angelo Katris, John Roberts, Robert Speigner** and **Paul Watts**.

Technical sergeant selects from the

469th ABG are: **Larry Bright, Anthony Bullen** (deployed), **Jorita Eugenio, Monica Forrest, David Gallagher, Marty Johnson** (deployed), **Chris Kammermeier, Eric Kinman, Timothy Larson, Mark Long, Danielle Myers, Annie Purvis, Jamal Rahmon, Alexander Sexton, Reginald Stovall, Jennifer Tejada** and **Claudia Van Hassel**.

Technical sergeant selects from the 726th AMS are: **Brian Crandell, Dominick Delango, Melvin Fogle, Jassen Jack, David Lunsford, Thomas Niski, John Pryhoda, Steven Sigley** and **Gillie Zamora**.

The final tally will increase as Air Force Personnel Center officials here receive test scores for Airmen currently deployed. Each of those Airmen has 30 to 60 days to test after he or she returns home.

"We have roughly 3,000 warriors who haven't tested yet because they've been deployed," said Chief Master Sgt. Mark

Billingsley, enlisted promotions branch chief at the center. "They will be allowed to test when they return, and we'll automatically consider them for promotion. We do this as quickly as possible and announce supplemental promotions on a monthly basis until everyone has been considered."

The master sergeant selection rate rose .39 percentage points from last year, while this year's technical sergeant rate dropped .32 percentage points from last year.

"This year has proven to be another banner year in terms of the number of people who have been able to earn promotions," Chief Billingsley said. "The Air Force had predicted we'd see rates start to stabilize and that's what is happening here."

The complete list of selectees will be posted to the Air Force Personnel Center's Web page at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/eprom](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/eprom) by 6 p.m. CDT today.

## Stylin'

*Staff Sgt. Tim Hall, 469th Air Base Group Finance Flight, throws a strike during the Kaiserslautern Military Community Air Force Enlisted Foundation Bowl-A-Thon June 16 at the base bowling alley. Seven teams earned \$450 for the enlisted foundation. The 469th Air Base Group Communications Flight won the team competition with a 2,163 series. The highest individual series for males was scored by Staff Sgt. Steve Gregorek, 469th ABG Fire Department, who bowled a 661. Teresa Kammermeir, 469th ABG / FD, was the top female bowler with a 483 series.*



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers

## CELEBRATE, from Page 1

young men and women brought their courage to the fight, and paid the ultimate price for the liberties we enjoy today.

As we celebrate this 4th of July with traditional picnics and barbecues and holiday trips, let us remember and honor our brothers and sisters in arms who are downrange and in harm's way ensuring our freedoms at home and around the world. In addition, as you enjoy your fellowship with friends and family, reflect on Old Glory and everything she represents.

The true power of the Declaration of Independence comes from its capacity to inspire pride in our hearts. Our belief in the vision it established unites us as Americans and as those in service to our nation.

Thanks for all the great work you do for U.S. Air Forces in Europe, the United States of America and the world.

## Avoid the heat, be fire safe

In the past two weeks, Team Rhein-Main has witnessed three minor, yet potentially life threatening fires.

With the start of summer Monday, residents should take time to refresh themselves with fire extinguisher usage and fire reporting and to assess/remove potential fire hazards from their homes.

Check to ensure smoke detectors are operational and family fire evacuation plans are posted and practiced.

Look for potential hazards and develop safe practices checklists—place cooking and electrical hazards at the top of the list. To assist in preventing fires, the following list has been developed as a guide and reminder that fire safety is everyone's business.

- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Keep stove surfaces, oven and exhaust filters clean.
- Keep combustible materials away from stove.
- Turn pot handles inward.
- Enforce a 3-foot "kid free zone".



■ In the event of a fire, carefully slide a lid over the pan to smother the flames, turn off the burner and notify the fire department.

■ Never try to move the pot or pan.

■ Never throw flour, water or anything else onto a fire—only use the provided chemical agent extinguisher in an attempt to extinguish it if possible.

■ Be sure that an appliance is rated for the voltage of the outlet before plugging it in.

■ Always check for loose, frayed and exposed wiring.

■ Unplug transformers when not in use.

■ Never string surge protectors or extension cords together.

■ Report all fires.

Implementing these basic fire awareness tips could prevent a fire from occurring.

If people have any questions or fire concerns, contact Doug Bankston, base fire prevention officer at 330-7117/7663.

(Courtesy of base fire department)



## CSIP, from Page 1

We can be incredibly proud of USAFE's accomplishments since program inception. Comparing the April 2004 results to January, USAFE has come a long way in a short time.

We've improved in 50 out of 74 metrics tracked. And, of the 24 remaining metrics, most changed marginally and still met the USAFE goal.

The examples highlighted here are truly only a peek into the overall success of the programs in total. Results clearly indicate our organization is focused and energized on key mission enablers: readiness, development, services and quality of life.

### Readiness

Combat Flightline puts maintenance experience back on the flightline where it belongs by reducing the number of people working outside of their core duties. This combat program has already returned 50 experienced Airmen back to maintenance production. And, there's more behind this program such as aircraft appearance and Combat Crew Challenge competitions which ensure our fleet reflects the expertise and professionalism of our crews. We've held three no-notice inspections with a 100 percent pass rate so far – the results prove that we're ready.



Improving the fitness of our people to meet the demands of our combat culture is the focus of Combat Fitness. One-stop shopping at the fitness center for diet management, classes on practicing injury prevention, smoking cessation and physical therapy are but a few of the program's initiatives. Currently, out of the Airmen tested at USAFE bases, 88 percent meet or exceed the new Air Force fitness standards, well above the AF goal of 75 percent.

The nation needs our leadership more than ever before and it is the inherent responsibility of Air Force leaders to mentor our future leaders. Project Connect is designed to provide a forum for senior officer mentors to counsel and enhance the individual professional development of junior officer protégés on a one-on-one basis. The program has two moving parts: our "Flag Talks" where General officers, prominent senior leaders and corporation chief executives visit our bases sharing their perspective on what it takes to lead today, tomorrow and into the future; and "Bright Horizons" where more than 160 of our USAFE company grade officers will visit headquarters annually to shadow our major command senior leaders. Aligning with Air Force policy for the Mission Driven Mentoring web-based program, USAFE is leading the way with almost 300 mentors registered. While our initial plan focuses on our officer corps, we expect to include our enlisted and civilian force by Fall 2004.

Through Combat Nighthawk sorties, our CGOs and senior NCOs are learning about unfamiliar elements of Air Force operations and gaining valuable experience by representing their wing commanders after duty hours. If we consider the overall goal of the program of leadership development and career-broadening and compare it to comments received by those who participated on sorties, it appears we are heading down the right track. Most comments reflect that people are getting a better understanding of functions out of their specialties.

Through Project SMART (Smartly Managing Awareness, Risk, and Threats) we embedded a safety culture that helped us manage our awareness of risk, actively combat the threats we face, and act smartly when we see something that needs to be fixed. The program has elevated safety awareness appreciably throughout USAFE with emphasis on safety programs and work-related and personal mishap prevention. Bases are sharing ideas and communicating through a focused "Monthly Safety Topics" initiative.



Combat Proud changed the way we look at things and strengthened our commitment to improve our command's appearance. Like many successful corporations, USAFE's approach is to improve our ethos / surroundings / facilities / environment / aesthetics / efficiency by ensuring our people are proud of the areas where they live and work. Dramatic improvements in base appearance are evident across the command. The base appearance scoring model goal is 85 percent overall improvements per quarter – the goal has been met or exceeded by every base!

Customer service in USAFE wasn't bad or in need of repair. The question became do we want to improve upon how well we are taking care of our customers? You bet!! Armed with a cutting edge five-day course curriculum, our Customer College customer-service professionals teach "excellence in service" to the rest of our front-line customer service providers. Exceeding our customer's expectations is a team effort and we plan to keep raising the bar. So far, more than 1,900 people have been trained.

With the Combat Intro / Exit program, we looked for innovative ways to facilitate inprocessing to a new duty location making the entire process as efficient as possible. We reduced the number of inprocessing stops to three at all USAFE bases – down from as many as 15 stops at some locations. With our use of Virtual Outprocessing, we reduced the number of re-

### Services

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## CSIP, from Page 7 —

quired outprocessing stops to an average of five per base which ensures our customers outprocess from USAFE as efficiently as we got them on board. These changes not only minimize some of the stress associated with permanent changes of station, but also maximize the amount of time a member can focus on his primary job.

Combat Education initiatives are removing barriers to education throughout USAFE. Nearly 50 percent of all college courses are now taught during non-standard times and almost 15 percent of all classes are offered outside traditional classroom locations. The result – an 11 percent increase in enrollments since October 2003.

## Quality of life

After a command-wide survey was accomplished to decide what you wanted, our libraries stocked reading materials you desired as well as CDs and DVDs, increased their number of programs and improved their services through Project Wizard. The 13 libraries in the command are exceeding the Air Force standard of eight programs a year by two programs and the utilization rates for our books and computers are exceeding our goals.

We have more than 2,500 registered



volunteers with Hidden Heroes who logged approximately 14,000 hours of service. Since we've started there has been a 30 percent increase in volunteer opportunities and volunteer hours served.

Combat Care is about taking care of our families when the active duty member is deployed.

While units do a great job, we want to make sure we're covering all fronts, and ensuring families left behind know they are a part of our team too! The standardization of the Key Spouses program has enhanced the information flow to our families as well as heightened awareness of resource availability. Now the command is on its way to developing a standardized approach to reintegrating airmen and families.

Project CHEER (Creating Hope, Energy, Enthusiasm, and Recreation) provided 455 high-energy events serving more than 46,000 single and unaccompanied Airmen (enlisted and officer) throughout the command during the holiday season. Bases collaborated and shared ideas for events and activities – some of the favorites included showcases by the USAFE band, basketball tournaments, movie- and bowl-a-thons, and the Spring Fling in conjunction with safety days.

Our chaplains initiated more than 67 programs under Combat Touch, including 13 new flightline / work center offices or prayer spaces, and 2 coffee houses to reach the troops and increase personal well-being and ener-



gize individual spirituality.

Although not a formal CSIP, the Power Plant Project is an initiative designed by Airmen, for Airmen. The Airmen of the 52nd Fighter Wing got it right! They named their own unique place on base the "Brick House" which includes game systems, an Internet Café, a myriad of hall games, projection TVs, sound and night club lighting systems and lots of finger foods. We wanted to duplicate this initiative throughout the command because the concept was so fresh and exciting. Six months since the first meeting, Project Power Plant is now cruising at 140 knots at Aviano, Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Lajes, and Incirlik Air Bases with our Airmen at the helm establishing the facility activities and programs they want.

All of our programs are a way of reaching out to our people and are another mechanism for feedback. Our great USAFE team embraced the changes and transformed, leading to new processes, cross-talk among functional areas and greater sharing of best practices.

Thanks to all of you who continue to demonstrate that we are focused on getting the USAFE mission accomplished with courage, teamwork and a commitment to excellence.

## DUI Tracker

### Days without DUIs (As of Tuesday)

#### 469th Air Base Group

59 days

#### 726th Air Mobility Squadron

148 days

#### 64th Replacement Company

39 days

#### Tenant Units

4 days

#### Others

161 days

The 469th ABG Top IV provides a

fund at the main gate for permanent party personnel who take a taxi back to the base instead of driving while intoxicated.

The money used must be reimbursed the next duty day.





## Extreme Steeler fans

*Hines Ward, Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver, signs a football for Michaela (right) and Jovina Svaranowic, daughters of Army Maj. Danno Svaranowic, 266th Finance Command in Heidelberg, Germany. Mr. Ward visited Rhein-Main Air Base as part of Extreme Summer 2004.*



Photo by 1st Lt. Uriah Orland



## Closure Corner

This section is devoted to giving the Rhein-Main Community the most up-to-date information concerning base closure issues. All dates presented in this section are subject to change based on: manpower figures, personnel assignment information and ongoing U.S. Air Forces in Europe coordination.

### Legal office

**Q:** Can my landlord charge me for utilities I did not use after I move out?

**A:** Ninety-five percent of all tenants have a contract that reads, "the basic rent is... in addition the tenant pays... for utilities." With this combination the landlord must specify within the contract which utility items the tenant pays for.

The landlord is not authorized to charge the tenant any additional utility items that are not in the contract. This principle applies from the time the contract is in effect until the tenant has terminated the contract. At this time a final bill will be issued for the remaining utility costs.

However, there are several issues to be aware of:

The landlord often has no influence over when bills are sent from utility payment offices. Therefore, a landlord is authorized to make a final collection, computation and billing at a time when the tenancy was terminated.

On the other hand, the landlord may prepare an annual utility bill and is authorized to make a final computation, based on past experiences, at the time the tenant terminates.

Because of this and other reasons, the landlord is authorized to withhold the security deposit for a time after the tenancy is terminated.

If you terminate a lease and move within Germany, there is no problem. Simply leave a forwarding address and you should receive a final calculation and the rest or everything from your deposit, based on a case-by-case basis.

If you terminate your lease on the economy and return to the United States there is a chance you might have a problem getting your deposit back, including a final bill pertaining to the tenancy.

In this situation it is highly recommended that the tenant, prior to returning from overseas, contact a German attorney, sign a power of attorney, leave all relevant documents behind, including a forwarding address and bank account, so the deposit can be transferred at a later date. The attorney will require a pre-payment for services rendered.

Regardless of any particularities, the tenant is obligated to return an apartment to the landlord, including keys, in a clean condition, free from damages. Clean means: all windows washed, carpet shampooed, furniture dusted, curtains dry-cleaned, etc.

### AFN TV/Radio

**Q:** When will TV and radio service end?

**A:** American Forces Network television and radio service will not end. AFN coverage supports other communities. During the summer and fall of 2004, AFN headquarters will move to Mannheim, and the Hessen affiliate, which covers Rhein-Main Air Base, will move to Wiesbaden. Hessen will still support the local community from there.

**Q:** Will it still be carried by TKS Cable?

**A:** TKS will still be carrying AFN. We do not plan changing anything, and we plan on having a "seamless" move to Mannheim and Wiesbaden.



Photo by Emily Bolon

## Champs

*The Rhein-Main Red Hot Chili Peppers 10-12 year old girl's softball team won the 104th Area Support Group Girls Bantam Championship with an 18-12 win over Hanau June 12. Team members include (back row, left to right) Chris Hernandez-coach, Leah Bolon, Kristine Mercado, Ciarra Banker, Kelsey Cyr, Eric Gadow-coach and Albert Mercado-coach. (Front row, left to right) Kimberly Stanley, Chelsea Whitworth, Rachael Monfardini, Shaniece Ormond and Kristin Gadow. The team finished their season at 7-1, despite the loss of several key players at the end of the season because of PCS moves.*

## Sports Briefs

### Baseball champs

The Rhein-Main Boys Bantam Baseball Team won the 104th Area Support Group Championship by defeating the Wiesbaden Braves 11-1 in a rain-shortened game June 12. Rhein-Main advanced to the championship by defeating Wiesbaden's Reds 19-0.

Andrew Kitterman and Colin Duran both homered in the semi-final game. The team was 7-0 on the season.

### Bowling special

Air Force Services brings Bowl for the Stars and Strikes to Rhein-Main through Aug. 31.

Participants in this program can earn rewards by collecting punches on red, white and blue punch cards available at

the Rocket Bowling Center.

For every 15 punches, participants will receive rewards such as a bowling pin key chain, bowling ball bank or t-shirt – while supplies last.

### Fitness challenge

June's Flight Fitness Challenge is set for 3:30 p.m. today at the fitness center. Come and see Rhein-Main units compete for fitness fame and glory.

## Softball scoreboard

as of Tuesday

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	T
SFS	4	1	1
Lufthansa	4	2	0
Consulate	3	3	0
ETC	2	3	1
64th RC	0	6	0

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L
726th AMS	5	1
Fire Department	5	1
469th ABG	5	1
AFN	1	5
TSTA	1	5

### June 15

469th ABG 10 - 726th AMS 4  
ETC 5 - SFS 5  
Fire Department 8 - Consulate 7

### June 16

AFN defeated 64th RC by forfeit  
Lufthansa 14 - TSTA 5  
726th AMS 9 - SFS 4

### June 17

Consulate 15 - TSTA 3  
469th ABG 13 - ETC 12  
726th AMS 11 - Lufthansa 1

### Tuesday

SFS 14 - AFN 1  
469th ABG 13 - 64th RC 6  
Fire Department 11 - ETC 8

### Tuesday's Games

6 p.m. - SFS vs. Fire Department  
7 p.m. - Lufthansa vs. 469th ABG  
8 p.m. - 64th RC vs. TSTA

### Wednesday's Games

6 p.m. - Consulate vs. 469th ABG  
7 p.m. - ETC vs. 726th AMS  
8 p.m. - Lufthansa vs. Fire Department

### Thursday's Games

6 p.m. - SFS vs. TSTA  
7 p.m. - 64th RC vs. 726th AMS  
8 p.m. - ETC vs. AFN

(Scores compliments of  
Rhein-Main Fitness Center)



## Rhein-Main Air Base HOMETOWN CELEBRATION

July 2, 2004

3-9 pm

Gateway Gardens  
Shoppette Parking Lot

- 1330-1430 -- Safety Sponsored Bicycle Rally
- 1445-2115 -- FREE Shuttle from Community Connection to Youth Center
- 1500-2100 -- Live DJ Music
- 1500-2100 -- Bouncy Castles, Human Foosball, Surf Simulator
- 1500-1530 -- Bicycle Parade
- 1530-1630 -- Gate to Gate Run/Walk
- 1535 -- Prizes for Bicycle Rally
- 1500-1900 -- American Apple Pie Contest
- 1530-Until -- Tickets drawn for prizes at the Prize Booth
- 1630 -- Deadline to turn in Apple Pies
- 1600-1900 -- Carnival Games Open
- 1600-1630 -- Kids' 1/2 mile and 1 mile runs
- 1630-Until -- Food Served while Supplies Last
- 1700 -- Apple Pie Judging
- 1700 -- Youth Dancers
- 1730 -- Youth Cheerleaders
- 1800 -- Welcome Home Celebration
- 1830 -- Frankfurt Galaxy Cheerleaders
- 1900 -- Robert Cotton & Friends



No Federal Endorsement of Sponsor is Intended

## Movies at Rhein-Main

- Friday** - "The Alamo," (PG-13), 7 p.m.  
**Saturday** - "Home on the Range," (PG), 5 p.m., and "Shrek 2," (PG), 7:30 p.m.  
**Sunday** - "The Whole Ten Yards," (PG-13), 7 p.m.  
**Wednesday** - "Garfield," (PG-13), 7 p.m.  
**July 2** - "Day After Tomorrow," (PG-13), 7 p.m.  
**July 3** - "Walking Tall," (PG-13), 5 p.m., and "Hellboy," (PG-13), 7:30 p.m.  
**July 4** - "The Girl Next Door," (R), 7 p.m.  
**July 7** - "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story," (PG-13), 7 p.m.  
**July 8** - "The Terminal," (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Movies and times are subject to change.

Movie schedules for local communities  
can be found at  
[www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp](http://www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp)

## Chapel Worship

The following worship opportunities are offered by the Rhein-Main Chapel:

■ Catholic worship:

Sunday Mass takes place at 9 a.m. every Sunday.

Penance - 8-8:30 a.m. Sunday or by appointment.

■ Protestant worship:

Worship and Kids Own Church take place every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

■ Vacation Bible School "Lava Lava Island," is set for 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. July 12-16. Parents can pick up registration forms at the chapel.

Call 069-699-7501 for more information.



## Teen life skills

The family support centers sponsors a teen life skills class for teens who will enter middle school this fall.

The class meets from 3-4:30 p.m. each Wednesday at Our House.

Making the transition into middle school can be a frightening and confusing experience. This class can help teens be successful by helping them make a smooth transition.

Call 330-7992 for more information or to sign up.

## New hours

Several youth programs have new operating hours for the summertime.

■ The school age program is open from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

■ The Camp Adventure Program takes place from 12:15-4:45 p.m. Monday-Friday.

■ The open recreation program runs from 4:30-7 p.m. Monday-Friday.

■ Teen only time is set for 7-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Call 330-7125 for more information.



## Limburg on the Lahn

## 13th century Altstadt still alive

**Photo and Story By 1st Lt. Uriah Orland**  
Public Affairs

It seems like beautiful little towns are a dime a dozen in Germany. However, Limburg on the Lahn, with its Romanesque cathedral and preserved Altstadt, is a cut above the rest.

During the Middle Ages, Limburg on the Lahn flourished as a stopover for merchants traveling from Köln to Frankfurt. Today, it serves much of the same function.

Limburg has the most important train station between Koblenz and Gießen, and is an excellent starting point for exploring the Upper Lahn Valley.

The town was largely unscathed by World War II and has preserved its large downtown, the Altstadt. It is certainly large enough to get lost in the narrow, winding streets.

The Altstadt includes some of the oldest half-timbered houses in Germany dating from the end of the 13th century. It also offers numerous shops and restaurants and is perfect for a leisurely stroll.

At the top of the hill is the most prominent landmark in the region and the town's pride and joy. The Saint Georg Cathedral can be seen from the entire valley.

The red and white sandstone structure is one of a kind with its combination of Romanesque and Gothic styles. Inside are a number of well-preserved frescoes and devotional artworks.

Duke Heinrich von Nassau began the construction of the cathedral in 1206 on the site of the Stifts church.

Behind the cathedral is the Burgberg, or hilltop fortification. The first mention of it was in 910, but is it believed to be older. The Stifts church was the original holy room of the castle.

Next to the cathedral, in the Diocesan Museum, is a small, impressive collection of medieval religious artifacts dating to the 12th



*The Altstadt in Limburg, dating back to the 13th century, offers a variety of shops and restaurants on narrow, winding streets that give a glimpse of the Middle Ages. (Right) The Saint Georg Cathedral is a unique blend of Romanesque and Gothic styles built in red and white sandstone.*

century, including serene statues, jewel-encrusted crucifixes, and elaborate robes.

Down the hill from the Altstadt is the old bridge over the Lahn, built in 1315. In 1357 Kaiser Karl IV established a bridge tax, which was a great source of income for the city for more than half a century.

To get to Limburg, take Autobahn A3 towards Kassel for about 30 minutes. Exit at the Limburg-Nord exit. Turn left at the first light and then left at the next light. The Altstadt is up the hill. It is recommended to park in the Altstadt parking garage.

